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February 2017

Greetings!



Pictured left to right are Gordon Sloane, chapter president; Bob Law, past chapter president; and Bill May, executive director, Arrowmont

2017 Monthly Drawing Sponsors

The AAW conducts monthly member drawings for a variety of sponsored prizes. Annually, the AAW holds a member drawing for a lathe. All AAW current members are entered into the drawings for a chance to win, but those whose membership is expired or lapsed are not eligible. [Please make sure your membership is active so that you have a chance to win!](#) Below is a list of AAW's vendor partners who

Silent Auction Benefits Arrowmont

When the wildfires spread from the Chimney Tops area of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park toward Gatlinburg, TN, on November 30, 2016, many woodturners were concerned about [Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts](#) and its beautiful wooded campus. The [Smoky Mountain Woodturners](#)

have donated prizes for 2017. When you patronize these businesses, please thank them for their support of the AAW.

[View past winners.](#)

- **Tennessee Association of Woodturners Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **Turn on Chicago Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **Turning Southern Style Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **Ohio Valley Woodturning Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **Oregon Woodturning Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **North Dakota Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **SWAT Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **Totally Turning Symposium**, Symposium Registration
- **David Ellsworth**, Set of four DVD's
- **Mike Mahoney**, 16 oz. utility oil
- **Thompson Lathe Tools**, \$100 gift certificate
- **Hunter Tools**, \$100 gift certificate
- **Trent Bosch**, Trent Bosch DVD
- **Nick Cook Woodturner**, Nick Cook DVD
- **Powermatic/JET** - Lathes

(SMWT) chapter was no different. Founded (along with the AAW) at Arrowmont, the chapter knew it wanted to help with the school's rebuilding efforts and decided to host a silent benefit auction as part of its December 2016 meeting and Christmas party. The chapter developed an auction catalog featuring pieces from demonstrators who headlined the chapter's Woodturners Weekend Programs in 2016, donations from members, and supplier partners. As a result of the auction, SMWT was able to donate \$1,000 to Arrowmont. Chapter President Gordon Sloane and Past President Bob Law traveled to Arrowmont to deliver the check in January. En route, they drove through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and were shocked to see how close the devastation came to downtown Gatlinburg. Bill May, Arrowmont's executive director, gave the men a tour of the Arrowmont campus, complete with the charred ruins of the dormitories Hughes Hall and Wild Wing, and maintenance building. Bill described Arrowmont's plans to replace and improve the structures, and explained that the smoke damage and cleanup had already been completed. The Arrowmont studios, dining facility, and remaining buildings are in use and ready for the 2017 workshop season, which kicks off on March 30.



A selection of Smokey Mountain Woodturners' silent auction items

Community Service Increases Participation

In the last year, the [Keystone Woodturners](#) chapter, Phoenixville, PA, produced and donated more than 260 turned items to local charitable organizations. Member participation has increased because of the chapter's emphasis on community service projects that benefit those in need. Recently, the chapter produced nearly 100 unique toys for a local church-based organization [Bridge of Hope](#), whose mission is to help end and prevent homelessness. Additionally, Keystone members turned and donated 18 wig stands for the [Paoli Hospital Cancer Center](#), which distributes over 150 wigs each year free of charge to patients undergoing cancer treatment. For the past two years, the chapter has participated in the [Beads of Courage](#) project for the [Nemours A.I. duPont Hospital for Children](#). In the coming year, Keystone expects to continue and increase its chapter's participation in producing turned items that challenge their creativity, while also helping local community organizations.



Keystone members with wig stands for Paoli Hospital Cancer Center



Keystone members with the toys for Bridge of Hope



Mike Zinser demonstrates for students (Photo: Larry McCormack, The Tennessean)

Turning for Purpose

Mike Zinser, Nashville, TN, turns stunning plates, salt and pepper shakers, and wall art pieces. Aside from selling enough pieces to support his hobby, Mike is most pleased that he can use his skills to connect with troubled local young men. Twice a month, Mike and the [Tennessee Association of Woodturners](#) teach woodturning at the [Narrow Gate Lodge](#), a Christian-based residential program that helps young men ages 18 to 25 find purpose in their lives. These young men have overcome many obstacles, including drug and alcohol problems, unstable family environments, and lack of role models. Mike has been involved with Narrow Gate since 2009 and on a recent visit spent four hours teaching six students to turn cherry wood chalice cups. When he finished, the students applauded and cheered. They explain that it's not necessarily about what they are making, but the relationships they build with mentors like Mike. "[Members of the Tennessee Association of Woodturners] come out here pretty often, so it feels like they're investing in us," reports one of the young men. Mike Zinser says he finds it rewarding too, "I'm drawn to our conversations, their sense of accomplishment, the trust we can find in one another and through that trust, the bond that may or may not develop."

This article is a synopsis of a January 17, 2017, story published in the The Tennessean.

[View the original article, video, and photos.](#)



Pictured from left to right: Angie Silipigno, Mike Kross, Don Orr, and Lou Carusone

Chapters Partner to Bring Joy to Sick Kids

In October, members of the [Old Country Guild of Woodturners](#) and [Adirondack Woodturners Association](#) delivered 61 Beads of Courage vessels to benefit children being treated at the [Melodies Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders](#) at The Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Chapter members Don Orr, his wife Barbara Costanzo, Lou Carusone, and Mike Kross, worked with Angie Silipigno from the Melodies Center, and presented the vessels in a touching ceremony attended by medical center staff. Don, a longtime radiologic technologist at the hospital, coordinated the [Beads of Courage](#) endeavor after seeing first hand the heart-wrenching circumstances of the young patients. More than half of the vessels were crafted by Lou and Mike, and Barbara single-handedly made 50 drawstring bags to complement them. A majority of the vessels were turned from segmented blanks produced of reclaimed maple from a local school that closed. Lou and Mike were not very experienced with segmented turning, but worked together to develop and refine their own system for producing the blanks and turning the vessels. The Beads of Courage program uplifts kids and their families who are going through a very trying time and are at a low point in their young lives. To bring a ray of happiness into their lives was immensely rewarding for everyone involved.



Some of the Beads of Courage boxes donated to the Melodies Center

Building a Woodturning Foundation

For many years the [Chicago Woodturners](#) chapter has encouraged one-on-one mentoring for members who are new to woodturning. Last year, the chapter's education committee recognized that a more formal training program could benefit many members who are trying to fast-track their learning curve. Consequently, the

chapter designed a class, held on three consecutive Saturdays, with a structured environment to teach new turners woodturning basics. A syllabus was developed using the AAW's publications, "Teaching Woodturning Basics" and "Let's Go for a Spin," as guides. Each class session consisted of nine students and featured short demonstrations followed by hands-on sessions monitored by the lead instructor and two assistant instructors. The first session focused on lathe basics and spindle projects, including turning a pen and a tool handle. The second class introduced the four-jaw chuck with small projects, including turning a birdhouse and a small bowl. The final session included platter turning and green wood turning projects. Safety and tool sharpening were emphasized in every class. Each student made significant progress and took home several finished projects. The only complaint the chapter received was that the class was only three sessions! Another class will be scheduled in 2017 to accommodate the waiting list of members looking for a solid woodturning foundation.



Mentors and students working on a project



Graduation day at Chicago Woodturners



Enrich your woodturning experience, better and faster!

Expand your woodturning knowledge and skills better and faster by attending

AAW's 2017 Symposium in [Kansas City, MO, June 22-25, 2017](#). You'll learn from **the world's best woodturners and have an experience beyond compare**. You'll glean inspiration from the galleries and exhibits and meet other remarkable people who share your enthusiasm for woodturning. The action begins on Thursday evening, June 22, with sessions for focused disciplines and a special presentation by Richard Raffan, who will reveal his adventures in life and woodturning. The agenda continues Friday through Sunday, June 23-25, with a marvelous selection of [rotations that are sure to knock your socks off](#). **Whether you're a beginner or seasoned turner, you'll undoubtedly benefit from the wide range of topics** including bowls, boxes, vessels, hollow forms, spheres, spindle turning, multiaxis turning, design, embellishment, and more. [Learn more and register](#).



Special Woodturning Adventure for Kids

Share the joy of turning with a child or grandchild! At this year's symposium, we'll offer free hands-on woodturning instruction for youth ages 10 to 18. Registered kids will have an opportunity to turn a variety of projects: candlesticks, bowls, spinning tops, garden trowel, yo-yos, vases, and more. Plus, some lucky youngsters will even win a turning package, including a lathe, tools, and faceshield. All youth sponsors will enjoy the privilege of participating in the youth turning experience. [Space is limited and preregistration is required. Learn more and preregister.](#)



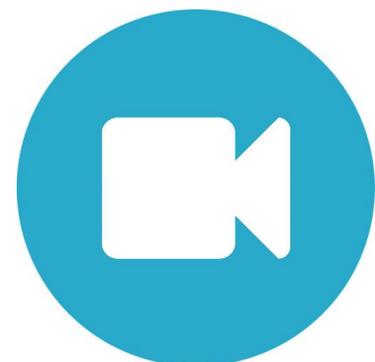
Be part of the excitement!

Each symposium is successful because of the all the dedicated people involved, including those who volunteer for a wide range of jobs before and during the event. As you make your symposium plans, please consider contributing a few hours of your time as a volunteer. Most volunteer tasks can be done by non-registered attendees and are perfect for spouses, partners, and other adult guests. You'll even have fun supporting this vital effort! Current opportunities include: **Merchandise Sales, Demonstrator Assistants, Greeters, Youth Hands-on, Instant Gallery, International Demonstrator Ambassador, Raffle, Registration, and Tool Room.** [Learn more and to sign up!](#)



Get behind the camera lens!

If you have experience with video camera equipment, have technical competence, and can make decisions about lighting, shooting angle, and microphone placement, consider becoming a videographer for the AAW's symposium in Kansas City, MO, June 22-25, 2017. **Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2017.** [Learn more and apply.](#)



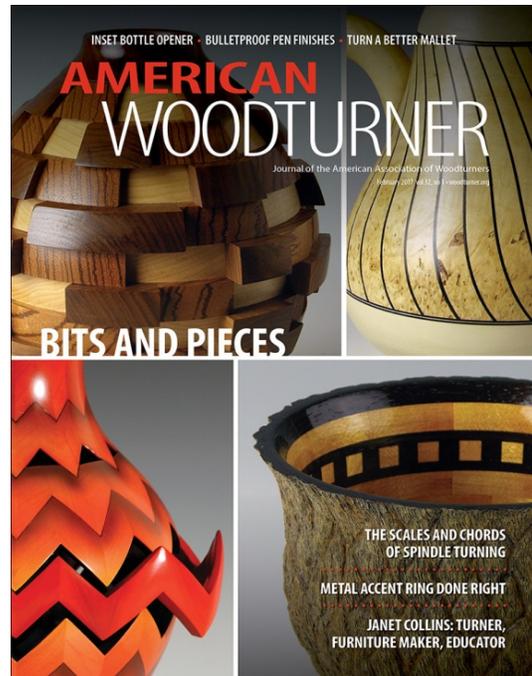
AAW EXPLORE!

Take the Plunge

Dive in and investigate the most extensive online woodturning library in the world, quickly and easily. Whether it's to solve a problem, research a new technique, or start a new woodturning project, you can get exactly the information you seek using EXPLORE! Nearly everything you want to know about woodturning is now at your fingertips and searchable in only a few mouse clicks. [Click here to take the plunge.](#)

Register for the AAW Forum

The AAW Forum is a member-moderated online community ideal for sharing work and ideas, obtaining feedback and assistance, and connecting with other woodturning enthusiasts. You can take part in discussions on topic areas such as tips, techniques, how-to, and more, or upload photos of your work to the [AAW Forum Gallery](#) for comments and critique. [To register, click here and then select the "Sign Up Now!" button.](#)



American Woodturner

Delve into the February 2017 issue of *American Woodturner*, which includes the skill-building project, "The Scales and Chords of Spindle Turning," by Kip Christensen, and a useful tool project, "Turn a Better Mallet," by Janet A. Collins. Other fun projects include, "Inset Bottle Opener," by Rick O'Ryan, and "Turn a Half-Moon Purse," by Janice Levi. [Click here to view the current issue online.](#)

Questions? Problems?

Call us at 651-484-9094 or 877-595-9094 (toll free) M-F 8:30am to 4:30pm (CST), or email at memberservices@woodturner.org. We're happy to help!

ALL the Benefits of Your AAW Membership

In the last year, AAW has introduced several new resources, including [Video Source](#) and [EXPLORE!](#), to help you advance your woodturning experience. You'll want to take a look at a [summary of member benefits](#) to make sure you're utilizing of all the resources available.





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2017 Schedule

Baltimore, MD 1/6-1/8	Somerset, NJ 2/17-2/19
New England 1/13-1/15	Detroit, MI 3/3-3/5
Kansas City, MO 1/20-1/29	Milwaukee, WI 3/10-3/12
Columbus, OH 1/27-1/29	Tampa, FL 3/17-3/19
Indianapolis, IN 2/3 - 2/5	Atlanta, GA 3/31-4/2
St. Louis, IL 2/10-2/12	

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